

Docket No.: 211381US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

Mikio TAKAIWA et al. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: ALKALINE PROTEASE

O.K. to enter this
entire amendment.
MMD
2/17/04

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment.

Page 1, before line 1, please insert

--This application is a Continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/509,814, filed
VS 6,376,227, 4/23/02
on April 6, 2000, now pending, which is a 371 of PCT/JP98/04528, filed October 7, 1997.--

Page 48 (Abstract), after the last line, beginning on a new page, please insert the attached substitute Sequence Listing.

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 with the following paragraph:

MMD
2/17/04